

CITY OF WHITEWATER
2nd URBAN FORESTRY COMMISSION MEETING
Tuesday, April 13, 2010 - 4:00 p.m.
Cravath lakefront room - 2nd floor, city municipal building
312 W. Whitewater St. Whitewater, WI 53190

DRAFT _ MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL: Meeting called to order by chair- Tiiu Gray-Fow. Members present- Peter Disley, Richard Ehrenberg, Tiiu Gay-fow, Tom Miller, Beverly Stone, David Stone, Wyatt Welter. Absent- none. Others present- Chuck Nass, Wally McDonell, Kevin Brunner, Roy Nosek, Chris Kaplan.

(There was a consensus to adjust the order of business in order to accommodate a photo / talk presentation about landscaping with prairie plantings)

2. MINUTES FROM LAST MTG. were approved with two date corrections. Motion by David Stone and second by Beverly Stone to do so. Ayes- everyone.

3. CITIZEN COMMENTS. None.

4. ARBOR DAY: To be held May 6, 2010 at 11:00 am. at Stairin Park. Three scarlet white oaks will be planted and the 2009 Tree City USA award will be presented

5. REVIEW OF FORESTRY GUIDE AND SPECIFICATION MANUAL: Chuck Nass said there will be no more maintenance pruning this spring when concerns were expressed regarding excessive pruning of trees on the east side this past March. Richard Ehrenberg passed a picture around showing a tree pruned up 35ft. in the air at 308 East Main Street. Richard Ehrenberg also passed out copies of the new minimum pruning standards which were enacted by the old Tree Commission on 4-15-09. This document and the Forestry Manual will be the 1st item for discussion at the May 11th mtg.

6. PLAN AND ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW COMMISSION REPORT: Land has been purchased for the extension of Stairin Road going east. Work begins this summer with completion planned for summer of 2011. Terrace trees will be planted on the south side where a sidewalk will be constructed. Trees will be paid for by the project budget. Landscape plans for the new Whitewater Innovation Center were distributed.

7. PARK AND RECREATION BOARD REPORT: Approval of hours for the parks took place. Their was no discussion related to trees and shrubs.

8. SPRING PLANTING PLANS: 26 of the sites for planting are based on requests from city residents. Chuck Nass' list of trees and list of planting sites was acknowledged without any review at the mtg. Chuck Nass requested additional site suggestions which can still be added since there are extra trees not yet sited. The issue of having planted flowering crabs and other small stature trees where no overhead utilities exist was brought up for discussion. Chuck Nass said that it is the practice of urban forestry to mix small stature trees in with shade trees in order to provide color regardless of open space available for tall shade trees. MOTION by Richard Ehrenberg and second by Peter Disley ... "Large shade trees shall be planted where no overhead utility lines are present. Smaller 20 - 30ft. trees shall be planted only where overhead utility lines exist. Applies to spring 2010 planting". Ayes- Peter Disley, Richard Ehrenberg, Tiiu Gay-Fow, Beverly Sone, David Stone, Wyatt Welter. Noes- Tom Miller.

9. TREE / SHRUB CUT AND PROBLEM LIST: Pictures were passed out showing girdling of

five trees on Bluff Road and Moraine View Blvd. Chewing by animals and or insects are the probable causes. Chuck Nass will investigate.

10. NATURAL LAWNS: Tom Miller introduced Chris Kaplan from Tall Grass Restoration, LLC. His company was involved in planting the prairie area at the southwest corner of Prairie Village and is involved in it's maintenance. He provided a 45 minute presentation with photos projected onto a screen. Included was the following information; Prairies include only native plants - grasses, flowering perennials called forbs, and sedges. These plants improve the soil with their deep roots and reduce soil erosion. They provide habitat for wild life. He talked about the steps they go through to plan for and plant a prairie making the point that maintenance is very important. He pointed out that natural landscaping is a planned process as opposed to just letting traditional lawn grass grow along with weeds. Prairies provide changing color and interest throughout the changing seasons. He said that we should not make it difficult for property owners to have natural landscaping. Richard Ehrenberg passed out a draft document for regulating traditional lawn grass and weeds...an update to the existing weed and grass ordinance chapter 7.22.00, for future review and discussion.

11. ADJOURN: At 6:00 pm. Tom Miller made a motion to adjourn, second by David Stone. Ayes- everyone.

NEXT MEETING: May 11, 2010 at 4:00 pm.

ITEMS FOR AGENDA:

1. Forestry Manual - pruning
2. Emerald Ash Borer
3. Spring planting
4. Natural lawns
5. Monthly reports and issues

Submitted by the secretary on 4-23-2010
Richard Ehrenberg



Excessive Pruning
Up! To ≈ 35 Feet

308 East Main St.

Photo Taken April 9, 2010

Passed around at 4-13-10

Urban Forestry Commission Mtg.